

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of licensing and managing media resources in a tele-  
2 communications system including a converged services platform, said method compris-  
3 ing the steps of:

4 creating a central pool storing resource points representing a license or authoriza-  
5 tion level of media resource service capability; and

6 dynamically allocating portions of said central pool to one or more media re-  
7 source cards, as needed to perform specific DSP services for a customer.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of: stor-  
2 ing in said central pool default and/or additional licensed resource points represented by a  
3 converged services platform.

1 3. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein said allocating step allocates  
2 portions of said central pool to a particular media resource card for a specific DSP media  
3 resource service.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of: pro-  
2 viding redundancy in the event a media resource card becomes unavailable by allocating  
3 additional portions of said central pool to remaining available cards.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of: des-  
2 ignating a specified number of resource points required to perform each media resource  
3 service available.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 5, further comprising the step of: de-  
2 termining a number of resource points needed to perform an application by multiplying a  
3 number of required media resource services by their corresponding number of required  
4 resource points.

1 7. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 6, further comprising the step of: li-  
2 censing additional resource points to a customer in the event that said resource points  
3 needed to perform an application are greater than said default resource points available.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 7, further comprising the step of: noti-  
2 fying said customer that a license for additional resource points is needed in that event.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein said DSP media resource  
2 service is selected from the group consisting of tone generation, tone detection, and re-  
3 cording/playback of voice recorded announcements.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A converged services platform, comprising:  
2 one or more media resource cards for performing media resource services;  
3 a central pool storing resource points representing a license or authorization level  
4 of media resource capability, said central pool for storing default and/or additional li-  
5 censed resource points represented by said converged services platform; and  
6 a processor for dynamically allocating portions of said central pool to one or more  
7 media resource cards, as needed to perform specific DSP services for a customer.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein said  
2 processor allocates portions of said central pool to a particular media resource card for a  
3 specific media resource service.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein said  
2 processor provides redundancy in the event a media resource card becomes unavailable  
3 by allocating additional portions of said central pool to remaining available cards.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein each  
2 media resource service has a specified number of resource points, which are required to  
3 perform said DSP service.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 13, wherein a  
2 number of resource points needed to perform an application is determined by multiplying  
3 a number of required media resource services by their corresponding number of required  
4 resource points.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 14, wherein said  
2 additional licensed resource points are licensed to a customer in the event that said re-  
3 source points needed to perform an application are greater than said default resource  
4 points available.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein said  
2 DSP media resource service is selected from the group consisting of tone generation, tone  
3 detection, and recording/playback of voice recorded announcements.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 10, further com-  
2 prising: cache memories programmed to cache voice recorded announcements and/or  
3 other announcements for playback.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 17, further com-  
2 prising: an associated file server coupled with a network interface and said processor,  
3 said file server storing said voice recorded announcements and other announcements.

1 19. (Currently Amended) A converged services platform, comprising:  
2 means for creating a central pool storing resource points representing a license or  
3 authorization level of media resource service capability; and  
4 means for dynamically allocating portions of said central pool to one or more me-  
5 dia resource cards, as needed to perform specific DSP services for a customer.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 19, further com-  
2 prising: means for storing in said central pool default and/or additional licensed resource  
3 points represented by a converged services platform

1 21. (Currently Amended) A method for managing available resources of a telecommu-  
2 nications system having one or more media resource cards, the method comprising:  
3 storing available resource points representing media resource service capability of  
4 the telecommunications system; and  
5 dynamically allocating available resource points to the media resource cards in  
6 order to perform media resource services provided by a DSP, as needed for a customer.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 preventing a media resource card from performing a media resource service in the  
3 event there are no remaining available resource points.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 storing additional resource points based on a customer need to utilize more media  
3 resources than allowed by the available resource points.

1 24. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 storing a default number of available resource points based on available DSP re-  
3 sources ~~on~~ for the one or more media resource cards.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 24, further comprising:  
2 in response to removal of one of the media resource cards, removing a corre-  
3 sponding number of default available resource points.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 assigning a number of resource points required to perform certain media resource  
3 services.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 26, further comprising:  
2 allocating a corresponding number of resource points to the media resource cards  
3 in order to perform a certain DSP media resource service.

- 1 28. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, wherein the media resource ser-
- 2 vice capability is based on a license or authorization level of a customer.